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Message Text

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61
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAJ-01 CPR-02 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20

RSC-01 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 L-03 SCA-01

JUSE-00 SY-10 DRC-01 /095 W
---------- 096317
R 271243Z OCT 73
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3443
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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FOR EUR/SOV

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC, AFSP, UR
SUBJECT:SOVIET CUSTOMS INSPECTION OF MARINE GUARDS

REF: MOSCOW 13036

1. CONSOFFS HANDED OVER NOTE ON RECENT AIRPORT CUSTOMS INSPECTIONS OF EMBASSY MARINES IN MEETING WITH MFA USA DIVISION TRIFONOV OCT. 25. CONSOFFS DESCRIBED INCIDENTS AND COMPLAINED THAT TWO MARINES WHO WERE INSPECTED WERE NOT ACCORDED PROMPT AND COURTEOUS CUSTOMS TREATMENT TO WHICH THEY WERE ENTITLED AS OFFICIAL STAFF MEMBERS BEARING OFFICIAL USG PASSPORTS. BESIDES ASKING MFA TO INVESTIGATE UNUSUALLY STRINGENT AND DILATORY INSPECTIONS, NOTE MADE CLEAR PRINCIPLE OF RECIPROCITY IN TREATMENT OF STAFF MEMBERS OF RESPECTIVE DIPLOMATIC AND COUNSULAR ESTABLISHMENTS SHOULD BE FULLY OBSERVED.

2. TRIFONOV MAINTAINED IN REPLY THAT SOVIET CUSTOMS OFFICIALS ALWAYS PROCEEDED PER INSTRUCTIONS AND FIFTEEN-MINUTE, CLOSE SCRUTINY OF MARINE'S BAGGAGE AND WALLET FULLY UNDERSTANDABLE. WITH RESPECT TO THREE-
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HOUR DELAY IN PROCESSING SERGEANT DURLING, TRIFONOV

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SAID MFA WOULD HAVE TO INVESTIGATE. IN ENSUING EXCHANGE, CONSOFFS REMINDED TRIFONOV THAT RECIPROCITY WOULD BE OBSERVED, BUT THAT SPECIFIC USG RESPONSE TO SOVIET INSPECTIONS OF TWO MARINES WOULD AWAIT MFA INVESTIGATION AND REPORT TO EMBASSY. CONSOFFS MADE CLEAR TO TRIFONOV, HOWEVER, THAT EMBASSY EXPECTS PROMPT REPLY TO THIS NOTE.

3. COPY EMBASSY NOTE WITH ENCLOSURE DETAILING SEPTEMBER 21 AND OCTOBER 13 CUSTOMS INCIDENTS BEING POUCHED EUR/SOV. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH MAKE SIMILAR APPROACH TO SOVIET EMBASSY.
DUBS

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Message Attributes

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